



## **Multi-National Division – North**

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### **Head-bangin’ Soldiers rock Beautiful Generation concert**

**By Pfc. Adam Carl Blazak**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment**

**MOSUL, Iraq** – When rising rock band Beautiful Generation performed at the Community Activity Center on Forward Operating Base Marez, one thing was for sure — it was time to let loose.

Coalition Force Soldiers danced and sang during the 90 minute performance Aug. 14.

“The concert was rockin,’” said Pfc. Anthony S. Shipley, an engineer with the 94<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion and native of Tacoma, Washington. “I loved listening to these guys. It just made my day.”

Shipley was just one of the lucky few who were invited on stage to accompany lead vocalist Shelby Goff during popular rock ballads.

“If I see them again I’ll definitely jump back on the stage,” Shipley said.

“We’re straight up rock band; heavy guitars, lots of drums and thick, chunky bass lines.” Goff said. “Our music is from the heart, and our live performance is where it’s at. We put on a phenomenal show.”

Though much of their music was cover songs, the band played a few original pieces composed by Goff.

“I pull my songs from life experiences, relationships, growth, triumph and struggles. That’s really where I get my inspiration,” she said. She then recalled one of her most memorable moments during a USO Tour.

“There’s a song I wrote called ‘Father,’” Goff said. “I remember playing that song, and I guess some of the people were really touched by it, because you could see tears in their eyes. As an artist, I don’t really think you could ask for anything else,” she said. “When something that you created is touching the lives of others, and it’s so apparent, it’s really motivating.”

Although the crowds the band performs for vary in size, the band members say that just meeting Soldiers and performing for them is all that matters.

“Meeting Coalition Forces is amazing,” said guitarist Lantz Cornell. “This whole experience is unreal.”

“It doesn’t matter if I’m reaching 100 people or one person. I’m reaching somebody,” she added. “When you’re up there and you see that person and that smile on their face you don’t even think about how many people there are or aren’t. You’re just in the zone. We’re just really thankful to be here.”

Goff, a former Miami Dolphin cheerleader, knows how to work the stage.

As a cheerleader, “It was a way for me to perform,” she said, adding that as a member of Show Team, the elite cheerleaders of the squad, she was able to sing.

“I was one of the select few who basically got to perform all over the world,” she said. “It was an opportunity for me to showcase my talent, but I wasn’t getting the recognition that I wanted. I was known as a cheerleader and not an artist or musician, which is what I ultimately what I wanted to be.”

After her stint cheerleading, she formed the group in Los Angeles and started performing USO Tours for deployed Soldiers. She is currently on her eighth tour.

“I just keep coming back because the people are wonderful,” Goff said. “The experience; there’s nothing like it. Music is my passion, it’s my love.”

While Goff is a USO Tour veteran, this is bass player Tony Glaser’s first time on tour.

“If you have any bit of adventure in you, then you can’t pass this up,” Glaser said.

Dubbed Beautiful Generation after the merging of two bands, the members met five years ago in Los Angeles’ closely-knit musician circle in Sunset Strip and the Musician’s Institute in Hollywood, Calif., Goff said.

“It’s a pretty hardcore atmosphere out here,” said drummer Scott Wittenberg. “It has been an honor and a pleasure.”



**080814-A-1791B-0071**

Lead singer for Generation Beautiful, Shelby Goff, accompanied by bassist Tony Glaser, performed at the Community Activity Center on Forward Operating Base Marez Aug. 14. The Los Angeles based rock group is currently on its seventh USO Tour. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Adam Blazak, 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment)



**080814-A-1791B-0112**

Tony Glaser, bassist for the band Generation Beautiful, performs a solo during the song “You Shook Me All Night Long.” The band performed for Soldiers at the Community Activity Center on Forward Operating Base Marez Aug. 14. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Adam Blazak, 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment)



**080814-A-1791B-0108**

Shelby Goff, lead singer for Generation Beautiful, performs for Soldiers at the Community Activity Center on Forward Operating Base Marez Aug. 14. This was the group’s seventh USO Tour. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Adam Blazak, 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment)



**080814-A-1791B-0074**

Generation Beautiful's drummer, Scott Wittenberg, and the other band members have been performed seven USO Tours for deployed Soldiers. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Adam Blazak, 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment)



**080814-A-1791B-0164**

Guitarist Lantz Cornell performs a guitar solo during a concert by the rock band Generation Beautiful at the Community Activity Center on Forward Operating Base Marez Aug. 14. This was the group's seventh USO Tour. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Adam Blazak, 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment)



**080814-A-1791B-0178**

Washington native Pfc. Anthony S. Shipley, an engineer with the 94<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, shares the stage with Generation Beautiful lead singer Shelby Goff during the song, "You Shook Me All Night Long." The band performed a concert at the Community Activity Center on Forward Operating Base Marez Aug. 14. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Adam Blazak, 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE MULTI-NATIONAL DIVISION – NORTH PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE AT: [MNDNPAO@1AD.ARMY.MIL](mailto:MNDNPAO@1AD.ARMY.MIL) OR DSN 318-856-0218

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